

## REGULAR ARMY ENLISTMENTS.

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JANUARY 6, 1921.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. KAHN, from the Committee on Military Affairs, submitted the following

### REPORT.

[To accompany H. J. Res. 440.]

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the resolution (H. J. Res. 440) directing the Secretary of War to cease enlisting men in the Regular Army of the United States, except in the case of those men who have already served two or more enlistments therein, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass with the following amendment:

On page 1, line 9, strike out the word "two" and insert the word "one" in lieu thereof.

Amend the title by striking out the word "two" and inserting the word "one" in lieu thereof, so that it will read: "Directing the Secretary of War to cease enlisting men in the Regular Army of the United States except in the case of those men who have already served one or more enlistments therein."

Under the act approved June 4, 1920, known as the Army reorganization act, it was provided that "except in time of war or similar emergency when the public safety demands it the number of enlisted men of the Regular Army shall not exceed 280,000 men, including the Philippine Scouts."

Under the Army appropriation act approved June 5, 1920, and entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, and for other purposes," there was appropriated a sum which intended to provide an enlisted personnel of the Army not to exceed 175,000 men.

The newspapers of the country from time to time published statements to the effect that the Army officers were conducting an intensive recruiting campaign for the purpose of enlisting a force to the full total of 280,000 men, authorized by the reorganization act.

The Secretary of War appeared before the Military Committee on December 10, 1920, to testify in regard to the matter, and stated that, in his opinion, the language of the Army reorganization act

makes it a positive and definite mandate from the Congress to the Secretary of War to recruit the enlisted personnel to the full strength of 280,000 men. The Secretary informed the committee that at times in the past the recruiting was not carried on so as to provide the full strength authorized by law, by inserting in the appropriating legislation a provision "that none of the money herein provided shall be used to recruit the Army beyond the designated strength."

In view of the fact that Congress by its action undoubtedly intended to reduce the enlisted forces during the fiscal year 1921 to not to exceed 175,000 men, your committee feels that House joint resolution 440, if enacted into law, will carry out the implied desire of Congress as expressed in the Army appropriation act of June 5, 1920.

